

Helminths, Arthropods and Protozoa of Domesticated Animals (Sixth Edition of Mönnig's Veterinary Helminthology and Entomology). E. J. L. Soulsby. Published by Baillière, Tindall and Cassell, London, 1968. 824 pages, 288 figures, 38 plates. Available in Canada through the Macmillan Company of Canada, Ltd. Price \$13.50.

Never before during the span of a third of a century has Mönnig's familiar textbook changed so much in a single revision. In view of this major revision one can understand that a new, descriptive title was justifiable and necessary. Professor Soulsby has done a commendable job in improving the book.

It may have been difficult to preserve the character of the book and Mönnig's original intention of a practical manual for veterinarians. In general, two-thirds of the book is still traditionally Mönnig—inflexible, dry and hard-to-locate information for practitioners, but it has grown in content, scope, quality and volume.

Perhaps there is no such thing as an ideal universal textbook. It can be argued that the more extensive, the more encyclopedia-like a book becomes, the less specific and less profound it will be; yet, in our age of science, technology and philosophy, there is also a need for "self-contained", "three-in-one" type of books. It is for helminths, arthropods and protozoa that the discipline of veterinary parasitology exists. In dealing with distribution of parasites and parasitic diseases, the book tends to embrace greater geographical scope rather than being limited to a few countries.

A totally new, major addition is the 250-page section on protozoa. This appears to be the best organized section of the book. The organisms are discussed from the standpoint of hosts, incidence, morphology, developmental cycle, transmission, pathogenesis, immunology, diagnosis, treatment and control. Major protozoal diseases are dealt with in detail. The extent of the discussion is in relation to veterinary importance of a particular disease. For example, there are 72 pages on coccidia and coccidiosis, seven pages on *Trichomonas fetus* and 30 pages on trypanosomes. The latter group, of course, has no practical importance for Canadian livestock but the information would be applicable to curricula, and to warmer climates. Relatively unimportant protozoa, such as *Toxoplasma*, *Sarcocystis*, *Besnoitia*, etc., are briefly described. Oddly enough, a little more than a full page is devoted to *Trichomonas vaginalis*, including as-

pects of diagnosis and treatment (connection with "domesticated" animals rather remote).

Another major change is in the list of references. These have been grouped according to classification of parasites and placed at the end of each major section, thus forming six sets of references. The citations include full title and the first and last page. This is a very valuable aid in literature search.

Revision of the sections on helminths and arthropods includes adoption of the Chitwood classification for the nematodes and condensation of updated information on anthelmintics and drugs. Illustrations in these two sections, although somewhat reorganized, are essentially unchanged. Basic description of the parasites has changed relatively little, except for a few deletions and a few additions. At the end of the text is a ten-page section on various parasitological techniques. The usefulness of this section may be somewhat questionable. It offers very little to a parasitologist, yet lacks detail to be of practical value to veterinary practitioners, students and amateurs. It would take twice as many pages, at least, to convey a minimum amount of workable, unconfusing detail.

On the dark side of the criticism lies the conspicuous number of typographical errata. It may not be flattering to some people to stumble repeatedly over typographical mistakes in spelling of species names, particularly when used as a textbook for teaching parasitology. The general Index, as well as the Host Parasite List, could stand some polishing. For example: *Eimeria bombayensis* (*sic*) is not shown under this name in the List although it appears in the index; *Hypoderma lineatum* is used in most of the discussion, but given under its synonym of *H. lineata* in the list (*H. lineatum* only, in the index); *Hypoderma silenus* is absent in the index. More careful proofreading would have been desirable. Also, it would be advantageous to include all common terms of parasites (and even diseases) in the Host Parasite List, together with page references. In the particular copy reviewed, the seven plates of Eggs of Worm Parasites were bound between the pages of Host Parasite List—a matter of inconvenience.

This book is suitable and recommendable as a general combined text in helminthology, entomology and protozoology for undergraduate veterinary students. Parasitology laboratories and veterinarians in farm animal practice may find the enlarged and updated edition more helpful than before. Both students as well as research workers are likely to benefit from the well-compiled reference lists. *L. Nülo.*